

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) has been approved. Comprehensive rehabilitation proposal based on unitwise techno-economic viability for the remaining units of both HFC and FCI including the Talcher Unit of FCI, as well as PPCL are under Government's consideration.

As regards PDIL, during the course of review of its rehabilitation scheme by BIFR approved in July 1997, BIFR directed that a revised rehabilitation scheme for PDIL be submitted for approval to the competent authority in the Government and thereafter for sanction of BIFR.

Rail Link with Bangladesh Through Petrapole-Benapole Border

*194. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have signed any agreement with the Bangladesh Government for resumption of international rail link through the Petrapole-Benapole border in the West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when this agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railway link between Petrapole (India)—Benapole (Bangladesh)—Broad Gauge for goods train services has become operational after signing of Working Agreement on 4.7.2000 by Government of India through Ministry of Railways and by Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh through Bangladesh Railways.

(c) Commercial notification has been issued by Railways for operationalising this route. Freight trains will run between Petrapole-Benapole as and when indents are received. The two countries will soon finalise the date for running the services.